



MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE'S 2010 MAIN STREET APPLICATION

The mission of the Montana Department of Commerce's Main Street program is to be a coordinating resource for communities seeking to revitalize their historic downtown commercial districts and to provide technical assistance to communities of all sizes. There is no longer a requirement for paid staff. In order for us to provide the downtown development and historic preservation technical-assistance services you want, we are asking communities to fill out this short application and tell us what your community's Main Street priorities are.

We will use your comments to help us determine which services to provide. Our decision will be based on how many requests we receive, the type of services requested, our budget, and other factors. In return, we ask that participating communities submit quarterly economic statistics, to the best of their abilities, to the Main Street coordinator.

Please contact us at 406/841-2756 or email us at jb Burk@mt.gov if you have any questions. You can either email the application or mail it to Montana Department of Commerce, Main Street, P.O. Box 200505, Helena, MT 59620-0505. Thank you for your assistance.

Community name & population:

Group or organization seeking application:

Names & titles of 2-3 contact people, including their mailing addresses, phone numbers, and email addresses:

1. What are your downtown's assets? (businesses, buildings, organizations, physical amenities, cultural offerings) _____

2. What are the major economic problem areas (market analysis, insufficient retail & services, real estate development, affordable housing, etc.) in your downtown? _____

3. What are the major promotional problem areas (image/branding, logo development, festivals, retail events, etc.) in your downtown? _____

4. What are the major design problem areas (streetscaping, signage, storefronts, window displays, street furniture, etc.) in your downtown? _____

5. Describe the level of community leadership and volunteerism in your community. Are there enough volunteers and leaders willing and able to guide the Main Street or other downtown development program? _____

6. Does your community have any funding to help pay for someone to coordinate downtown development and historic preservation efforts, or for travel to and from workshops, trainings, and the annual Montana Main Street conference? _____

7. How many, if any, buildings in your downtown are on the National Historic Register? In general, what condition are they in? Is your community a Preserve America community? _____

8. Describe the level of support for the Main Street or other downtown development program from city government, downtown businesses, the greater business community, Chamber of Commerce, economic development organizations, and citizens.

9. Based on your answers to questions 2, 3, and 4, what do you believe are the overall top three needs in your downtown?

10. Do you have any projects already in mind that you would like assistance with? (such as a building rehabilitation, a heritage tourism plan, interpretive signs, downtown landscaping, etc.)

11. What does your community expect to achieve by participating in the Montana Main Street program?
